

PETITION

OF

A NUMBER OF MERCHANTS OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT,

PRAYING

The repeal of the law which prevents collectors and receivers from taking in payment the bills of such banks as have issued notes of a less denomination than five dollars, since the 4th July, 1836.

JUNE 12, 1838.

Read, and ordered to be printed.

To the honorable the Senate of the United States, now in Congress assembled:

The subscribers, merchants of the city of New Haven, State of Connecticut, having seen the late circular from the Treasury Department which prohibits, under authority of a law of Congress, collectors and receivers of public money from taking in payment of debts due the United States any bills of banks which have, since July 4, 1836, issued bills of a denomination less than five dollars, even although such banks should have resumed specie payments, beg leave, respectfully, to state that all the banks in this city, and, as we believe, all in this State, with a single exception, have made such issues, much to the convenience of the public. This decision of the honorable Secretary will, therefore, prevent your petitioners from paying their bonds for duties to the Government in bills of our own banks, and will oblige us either to send abroad to neighboring States for bank bills (very few and difficult to be obtained) or Treasury notes, or to draw the specie from the vaults of our banks to deposit in the collector's office, either of which course we consider much against the public interest; for your petitioners cannot see why, if the citizens of this State wish the banks here to issue small notes for their convenience, the Government should wish to prevent them; or why the bills of a bank issuing small notes should be less valuable than those confining their issues to bills of a larger denomination; the amount of issues in either case being limited in proportion to their capital.

They therefore pray that your honorable body will repeal such part of that law which prevents collectors and receivers of the public money from taking, in payment, bills of such banks as issue notes of a less denomination than five dollars; and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, June 5, 1838.

R. M. Clarke
Nathan Peck, jr.

Joseph N. Clarke
H. E. Peck

Ezra Hotchkiss & Son
 Thomas B. Jewitt
 Elias Hotchkiss
 A. Heaton
 Enos A. Prescott
 Benjamin M. Prescott
 Roger Sherman
 Sheffield, Beecher, & Co.
 Jehiel Forbes
 Geo. Hotchkiss
 Isaac T. Hotchkiss
 H. & L. Hotchkiss
 R. Hotchkiss & Son
 Elnathan Attwater
 Amos Smith
 N. F. Thompson
 F. T. Jannan & Co.
 Asa Bradley
 Samuel Huggins & Son
 Nicholson & Clark
 L. Cander
 Kidston & Hall
 Hotchkiss & Whittlesey
 T. Towner & Co.
 Coley & Smith
 Wm. J. Forbes

F. Merwier
 T. Dwight
 Henry N. Whittlesey
 John English & Co.
 Stephen Bishop
 Enos B. M. Hughes
 Smith & Sherman
 Charles B. Doolittle
 George H. Nobb & Co.
 Henry Huggins
 Sherman Smith
 John S. Graves
 Eli B. Austin
 Philip Saunders
 E. N. Thomson
 Sanford & Bliss
 Babcock & Marvin
 S. B. Chittenden & Co.
 E. E. Huggins
 George Sherman
 J. & J. S. Griffing
 Dean & Cutler
 H. J. Potter
 T. Bishop
 Frederick Hunt

NEW HAVEN, June 7, 1838.

We believe among the names signed to the annexed petition are those of every importing house in this city, with one exception. If such is the fact on examination, will the collector be good enough to annex his certificate to that effect?

J. FORBES & SON.

In examining the foregoing list of names, I believe them to be names of all the importing houses, with the exception of one.

(In the absence of the Collector.)

WM. DURAND, JR.,
Deputy Collector.

Joseph N. Clarke
H. E. Peck

R. M. Clarke
Nathan Peck, Jr.

Blair & Hayes, printers